

Cottonwood Heights, UT | January 2020 | FREE

NEWSLETTER

www.ch.utah.gov

Working Together is Key to Improving Mobility on Heavy Snow Days

By Council Member Christine Mikell



year again, the snow falls, the canyon closes and the traffic backs up along Wasatch Boulevard and its arterials. Inevitably, frustration comes on both sides, Cottonwood Heights

It is that time of

ski commuters and residents.

An unscientific review of the Nextdoor app shows that in the Top of the World area of Cottonwood Heights, there is more concern for skier traffic and Wasatch Boulevard than even snowplowing. Recently, residents of District 4 organized two cottage meetings, to which they invited their neighbors and Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) representatives,

as a way to convey to UDOT the importance of Wasatch Boulevard. The city also held its own open house to discuss what it is doing to address the problem.

Because of this concern, the Central Wasatch Commission (CWC), including Mayor Mike Peterson, Salt Lake County, UDOT, the Utah Transit Authority and the city have been working on several near-term initiatives to try to assuage some of these traffic issues. At our open house in October, City Manager Tim Tingey sought feedback from residents on some of those initiatives, including transit service solutions, congestion management for transit such as enforcement of idling vehicles, direct bus service to each ski area, car rental partnership (requiring rental car companies to be equipped for the Traction Law), and evaluation of traction policy/ordinances. Some

"Working Together...", continued on page 3

ECRWSS Local Postal Customer Presort Std U.S. Postage PAID Riverton, UT Permit #44

Printed on Recycled Paper



JANUARY 6, 2020 | 7 PM OFFICIAL SWEAR-IN CEREMONY IN FOR
SCOTT BRACKEN AND DOUG PETERSEN





CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

UPCOMING TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

JAN. 7, 2020

- WORK SESSION: Y2K ANALYTICS COMMUNITY SURVEY REPORT
- BUSINESS MEETING: QUARTERLY STAFF REPORTS – POLICE DEPARTMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

JAN. 21, 2020

- WORK SESSION: ZONE MAP AMENDMENT: 8120 S. ROYAL LANE
- BUSINESS MEETING: REAPPOINTMENTS TO ARTS COUNCIL
- QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT
- DISCUSSION ON A PROPOSED
 COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.COTTONWOODHEIGHTS.UTAH.GOV

WHAT'S INSIDE

ARTS & EVENTS	2
CITY NEWS	3
PUBLIC SAFETY	4-5
HISTORY	6
EDUCATION	7
BUSINESS	8

History Question of the Month

What was the "historic" name of the canyon located between Big Cottonwood and Little Cottonwood canyons, known today as Deaf Smith Canyon?

Answer on page 6

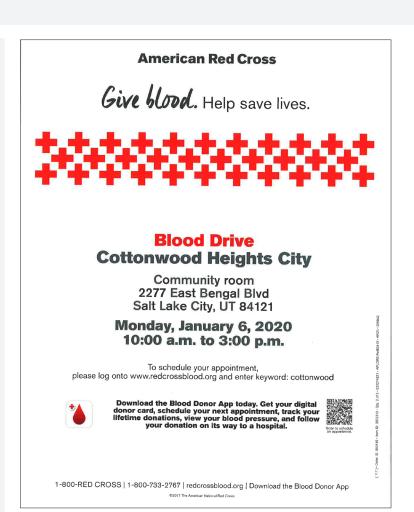
Artist Spotlight: Leslie Peterson

It was through serendipity, rather than design, that Leslie Peterson discovered her passion for art. In 2011, she enrolled in a community art class with her son-in-law who had recently suffered a stroke. Originally intending to use the course as a means of therapy for him, she found herself instantly captured, and has been a prolific painter ever since. Known for her charming, whimsical series of portraits, titled "The Forgotten Wives of Joseph Smith," Peterson's art has garnered a great deal of local and national attention. In 2015, the series won awards in the Annual Radio West Film Competition, and it has been featured at both the University of Utah and Dixie State University.

Notably, the New York Times published an article about a series of portraits Peterson created that featured the wives of Joseph Smith. She decided to paint the wives after reading an essay about them on The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' website, www.churchofjesuschrist.org. She says that working on the portraits was her way of celebrating their reappearance in awareness among church members and bringing them to life in church history after a long absence.

Currently, Peterson teaches watercolor workshops with her daughter, Julie. You can follow them on Instagram at @pinkpapayaart.





Utah Wind Symphony presents: Elements

Guest conductor: Randal Clark January 27, 2020 | 7:30 pm Butler Middle School



Tickets can be purchased at UtahWindSymphony.org Adults: \$9 Students/Seniors: \$5

Families: \$25

of these short-term initiatives have come by way of suggestions from our residents over the last year.

Take for example an email suggestion I received from one constituent. His idea was to put stickers on cars that are compliant with the laws of SR 210—if you have a four-wheel or all-wheel-drive car (or two-wheel drive and chains) and good snow tires, you may receive

mountain snowflake logo or an acceptable traction device, such as chains, during weather restrictions on Utah roads. The snowflake logo means the tire was tested and certified to drive on roads where heavy snow is falling. These tires have specific tread patterns, which are designed to help drivers stay in better control in the elements. In the past, two-wheel-drive vehicles could get away with snow tires that had



a sticker which allows you to drive up the canyon quicker than those that do not comply.

This year, UDOT implemented a pilot program for this very idea for citizens who live or work in the canyons. These individuals can go to the UDOT Cottonwood Maintenance Shed on specific days in January to be inspected. Vehicles which pass the inspection will be given a sticker allowing them to bypass field inspections (also known as metering) when the traction law is in effect. More information on the program can be found at cottonwoodcanyons.udot.utah.gov.

In September, UDOT issued a new rule requiring certified snow tires during winter weather road restrictions for two-wheel-drive vehicles (https://rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r920/r920-006.htm). Drivers of most passenger cars and light-duty trucks will be required to have tires with the three-peak

a mud and snow (M+S or M/S) rating in the canyons during severe winter weather. Those tires are still acceptable for four-wheel and all-wheel-drive vehicles, but the mountain/snowflake tire or 3PMSF tire (or chains) is now required for two-wheel-drive vehicles on highways when the traction law is in effect.

These changes should help Cottonwood Heights in the long-run. When the Canyons are metered or being checked by police this will help them approve cars faster. We are hopeful that if this UDOT pilot program works, it will be unveiled to a larger part of the population.

Another idea that was submitted to CWC which we support is to have a centralized coordinator for the canyons. In my mind this person would ensure that UDOT highway signage shows the canyon is closed in real time and to not head into Cottonwood Heights and idle on our roads.

This has also been implemented. The goal of this communication program is to establish UDOT as the primary source of transportation information in the canyons and to have effective and efficient coordination and communication for the transportation-related efforts in the Cottonwood Canyons and surrounding communities. Real-time updates on heavy weather days, and general information can be found on most social media platforms by searching @UDOTcottonwoods.

Mayor Peterson reminds members of the Council often that we have momentum to solve these problems. These steps toward mitigating ski traffic are a direct result of multiple efforts by residents and agencies alike. We are actively taking steps toward improving canyon traffic on busy days, and that is because of residential feedback.

With 2.1 million annual visitors to Little Cottonwood Canyon and with travel times from I-215 to Alta ranging from 45 to 120 minutes on avalanche closure days compared to 28 minutes under ideal solutions, it is in everyone's interest to find solutions.

In talking to our PIO, Tim Beery, recently, he reminded me of how active our citizens are. Prior to Cottonwood Heights, Tim worked for UDOT Region 2. He said that there were two very vocal communities in Region 2, which includes Salt Lake, Summit and Tooele counties, and one of those was the Wasatch Boulevard area of Cottonwood Heights.

As a city, we could not be prouder of this sentiment. We actively strive for feedback from our residents and we are always looking to make our community better. We ask for your continued feedback as we work to improve mobility through Cottonwood Heights. Please send feedback in any way you can, whether in person or through electronic means. We listen to what you say, and we do our best to implement improvements where and when we can.

Electronic comments and feedback can be sent to PR@ch.utah.gov ■

KEEP IN MIND THESE FIRE HYDRANT SAFETY ISSUES

By The Unified Fire Authority

Did you know that fire departments do not own the fire hydrants in the communities we serve? Firefighters rely heavily on them for a water supply during structure fires and for other operations, but they are actually owned by the water companies that serve each area. If a fire hydrant becomes damaged or is having mechanical issues, the water companies do the repairs. If you become aware of an issue with a fire hydrant in Cottonwood Heights, you can report the address of the hydrant to city officials, who in turn will forward that information to the Unified Fire Authority. UFA will then make sure the water department in that area gets the information, so they can inspect and repair or replace the hydrant.

Maintaining a clear and workable space around fire hydrants during the winter months is vital. Water departments lack the number of personnel it would take to do this on a regular basis. In general, this responsibility falls on the residents who own or occupy property nearest a

hydrant.

When responding to structure fires, time is of the essence. Fire departments strive for acceptable response times and it is frustrating when a fire hydrant needs to be cleared of snow or debris before firefighters can engage in water supply and suppression tactics to extinguish a fire. If you have a hydrant on or near your property, here are the things you can do to ensure firefighters can connect to the hydrant when needed:

- Shovel or snow-blow 3 feet of space all the way around fire hydrants.
- Maintain an open corridor from the street to the front of fire hydrants.
- These clearings should go all the way to the ground whenever possible, but not less than 1 foot below the hydrant caps, at a minimum.



Some neighborhoods organize an Adopt-A-Hydrant program. This creates the awareness for residents to take note of clearing snow from hydrants and maintaining space around them and to help each other with those tasks throughout the winter months. These things can be done when you are already out shoveling or snow-blowing your driveways and sidewalks.

As always, thank you and stay safe! ■

Gravel Pit Area Transit and Development Workshop - January 21-23

Please join UDOT and city staff from 5:30-7 p.m. on Jan. 21 to 23 at City Hall to share ideas about the future of the gravel pit development, especially as it relates to public transit and development. The Gravel Pit Area Transit and Development Workshop is a three-day public gathering to create conceptual ideas for the gravel pit site development and how it can help inform future transportation solutions for the Little Cottonwood Canyon Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The gravel pit, located near the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon, is a potential location for a public transit hub that is under evaluation for the Little Cottonwood Canyon EIS. This three-day design workshop will focus on addressing potential parking layouts, use and urban design concepts, and will be held at Cottonwood Heights City Hall to receive public input.

The design workshop will consist of a three-day interactive public process administered by UDOT in collaboration with city staff. Various concepts will be generated by the design team during the day and presented for feedback during evening pin-up sessions. Based on public input, refinements will be made each ensuing day and again presented in the evening. Each session builds upon the input received from the public at the previous session.

Public pin-up sessions will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on the evenings of January 21 to 23.

The public is highly encouraged to attend and

participate in this unique opportunity to provide input on the development of concepts for a future transit center and ensure that it represents the community's vision for the area.



Going Skiing this Winter? Time to Get on the Bus

By now you've probably heard how the Utah Transit Authority has beefed up its Ski Bus service to help alleviate congestion and parking challenges in the Big and Little Cottonwood canyons. The changes include increased frequency, more seats inside the buses and elimination of the bottleneck-causing park-and-ride at the mouth of Little Cottonwood. But are these changes enough to get Cottonwood Heights residents—many who live here for the proximity to the mountains—out of their cars? Following are five reasons why the answer should be a resounding "yes":

Convenient reliability: This winter's Ski Bus schedule follows a tight, mostly every-15 minute pace from roughly 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. along all three routes: 953 (Midvale to Snowbird/Alta), 994 (Sandy to Snowbird/Alta) and 972 (Midvale to Solitude/Brighton). This means, for example, that if you miss the Swamp Lot's 8:12 a.m. bus, you only have to wait until 8:29 a.m. for the next one. What's more, the big afternoon service gaps of previous winters—usually from about noon until 3 p.m.—have been eliminated, which both eases crowding on the down-canyon trips, but also allows many of us a luxury we're accustomed to with driving: skiing for just a few hours in the middle of the day.

Lots of stops: In addition to its main park-and-ride stops (download a map at rideuta.com/rider-info/UTA-ski-service), the Ski Bus services many more stops along its way through Cottonwood Heights as well, like the aforementioned Swamp Lot, one at the Reams shopping center (2396 Fort Union Blvd.) and one

due west of where Kings Hill Drive meets Wasatch Boulevard. Find all the Ski Bus stops on the Rider Tools page at rideuta.com

It's cheap: The ski resorts play a big role in funding the Ski Bus. As such, if you're an Alta, AltaBird, Cottonwood, Brighton, Powder Mountain, Snowbasin, Snowbird, Solitude, Sundance or IKON season passholder, you can ride the Ski bus for FREE. Simply tap your pass on the scanners at the front or middle of the buses as you board and again as you disembark. Visitors who've purchased the Ski City Super Pass (skicity.com) can ride the Ski Bus free of charge as well. Regular rider one-way fares are just \$4.50 for adults and \$2.25 for seniors over age 65.

Less Stress: Instead of spending the commute to the resorts white-knuckling the steering wheel, on the bus you can check your email, read a book, take in the scenery or even chat up your fellow riders. Outside of riding the chairlifts at the resorts, there's no better way to rub elbows with a group of outdoors-loving, likeminded folks like riding the Ski Bus.

Less Wear and Tear on Your Car and the Earth: Anyone who's driven in Big or Little Cottonwood canyons knows those are not easy miles on a car. You can also count on local law enforcement to check for four-wheel-drive/snow



tires/chains when it's snowing, necessitating even more expense associated with driving the canyons in the wintertime. And then, of course, there are the obvious environmental benefits to riding the bus. According to the Federal Transit Administration, bus transit produces 33 percent less carbon dioxide emissions per passenger mile than an average single-occupancy vehicle. In fact, opting for public transit just two days a week will cut your personal CO2 emissions by 25 percent.

The 953, 972 and 994 Ski Bus routes operate in the Big and Little Cottonwood canyons now through April 5, 2020. For more details visit rideuta.com.

CH Amateur Radio Club Places First in Emergency Operations Exercise

The Cottonwood Heights Amateur Radio Club (CHARC) took home first-place honors in a competition hosted by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), which measures an amateur station's ability to communicate swiftly and effectively in an emergency.

"Our primary goal is to train our operators to handle communications under somewhat stressful conditions over an extended time, much as we would in a real disaster," said club president and Cottonwood Heights resident Carlos Cardon.

As an amateur club, CHARC is completely volunteer based and strives to be ready to assist Cottonwood Heights first responders as needed. During their field day competition, CHARC took first place in the category "Established Emergency Operations Centers using one transmitter." The

club demonstrated its competency in swift and effective communications during a simulated natural disaster.

"Some groups go outside their ranks and bring in expert operators to boost their score," said Cardon. "But that conflicts with our primary goal, so we only use our own members."

CHARC has participated in the ARRL field day in seven of the last nine years, and placed first twice, in 2016 and 2019. In each of the years of competition, the group has placed in the Top 7.

"CHARC is a tremendous help to us in the city," said Assistant Police Chief Paul Brenneman. "They really support us, and it is nice to know that we can depend on them in the event of an actual emergency."



Answer

Question, continued from page 5

The canyon known as Deaf Smith Canyon was originally called Little Willow Canyon, named for the willow trees that grew along its creek banks. As the population in the Salt Lake Valley grew, there was a need for new sources of lumber. Little Willow Canyon was one of the areas looked at, only to be disregarded due to the terrain which made obtaining the trees and building an accessible road difficult if not impossible. In 1865, John Thayn obtained a permit to control the canyon and charge a toll for each load of lumber taken out. This was with the condition that he build and maintain a road in the canyon. Within six months he returned the permit. He concluded, like those working the area before and after him, that it was too difficult a task. In 1875, Henry Standish hauled a saw mill up the canyon. It is not known if it was ever put into operation. Three years later, the area was abandoned and totally rundown.

In 1877, Standish filed a mining claim in the canyon, but it wasn't until after 1893 that there was any real interest in mining in the canyon. After that date, more than 200 claims were filed in and around Little Willow Canyon. Big Willow Irrigation Company records indicate that there was still some mining

activity taking place in the canyon in the 1960s.

Around year 1895, a group of people in the Danish Town area dug a ditch, diverting water at the mouth of Little Willow Canyon to water their farms. They incorporated in 1900 as the Big Willow Irrigation Company. The company's diversion facility is still located in the canyon.

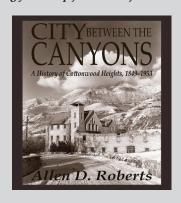
During the early 20th Century, Little Willow Canyon was a popular place for groups to camp and then hike to Twin Peaks. The 1962 USGS map of the area shows that the name of the canyon was changed to Deaf Smith. The reason for the change is not known for sure, other than the fact that there was another Little Willow Canyon located south of Bell Canyon. The duplication in the name of the canyons did cause confusion among those owning water rights in the two canyons.

Why the name was changed to Deaf Smith is a mystery. Some have wondered if it was named after the Deaf Smith who played a big role in the Texas Revolution. However, that Smith died in 1837. This was long before the pioneers migrated west and no connection has been found to connect him to Utah history.

Buy the Book!

Stories of our community can be found in the book "City Between the Canyons: A History of Cottonwood Heights 1849-1953."

The book would be a great gift. Pick up yours at City Hall.







Join CHRC Today!



chparksandrec





City Council Members

MAYOR - Michael J. Peterson

DIST# 1 - Michael L. Shelton

DIST# 2 - J. Scott Bracken

DIST# 3 - Tali C. Bruce

DIST# 4 - Christine Watson Mikell

CITY MANAGER - Tim Tingey

City Office 2277 E. Bengal Blvd Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121 Phone801-944-7000

Numbers to Know

Emergency	911
Dispatch	. 840-4000
Fire Authority	. 743-7100
Animal Control	. 840-4000
Justice Court	. 273-9731

Call Direct

City Manager	944-7010
City Planning	944-7065
Public Works	944-7000
Recorder	944-7021
Finance Director	944-7012
Code Enforcement	944-7095
Police Administration	944-7100

City Council Meetings

Jan. 7 - Work Session 5 p.m.,

Business Meeting 7 p.m.

Jan. 21 - Work Session 5 p.m.,

Business Meeting 7 p.m.

(Work session reconvenes after business meeting.)

Agendas are posted 24 hours in advance of public meetings.

For details about the agendas, go to: www.ch.utah.gov

Planning Commission

The Planning commission holds meetings at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. This month's meeting will be held on Jan. 1.

Editors

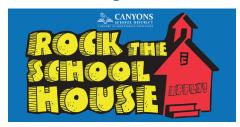
Tim Beery, Kim Horiuchi

Graphic Designer

Megan Pace

Coming Soon: Application Window for Preschool, Supplemental Kindergarten

The application window for spots in Canyons District's tuition-based preschools for the 2020-2021 school year opens on Jan. 8. Soon, Canyons also will be accepting applications for its Supplemental Hours of Kindergarten Instruction program. The tuition-based program provides enrollees with four



additional hours of instruction on top of the half-day they would normally receive. Space is limited, and applications for both the preschool and kindergarten programs are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Pricing information, eligibility guidelines and lists of the school sites offering each program can be found at canyonsdistrict.org.

Nominate Your School's Teacher of the Year

Following a 10-year tradition, Cottonwood Heights area schools are seeking community suggestions for their 2020 Teacher of the Year award. Nominations will be accepted from Jan. 2 to Feb. 3, and forms are available at canyonsdistrict.org. From the field of the school-based Teachers of the Year, Canyons selects one educator who will serve as the District's representative in the state Teacher of the Year competition. The winner also will receive gifts and prizes from local businesses.

Connecting Brighton High Alumni

Canyons District has launched an online directory to help alumni stay connected with their alma mater and high school friends. Help spread the word, and invite your fellow Brighton graduates to verify that their directory information is correct so that Canyons can keep them apprised of homecoming events, class reunions and more. You can check out the directory by visiting alumni.canyonsdistrict.org.



Death by Chocolate

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020 | 5 to 7 pm.

Restaurants, bakeries and catering companies will bring their favorite chocolate desserts to the Cottonwood Heights Business Association's Death by Chocolate event.

Attendees can sample all the chocolate creations and visit with

friends and neighbors during this open house. Some vendors will have products for sale.

Cottonwood Heights City Hall, Community Room (2277 E. Bengal Blvd.)

 $\label{thm:complex} Tickets — \$10\ each\ /\ \$15\ per\ couple\ will\ be\ available\ for\ purchase\ in\ January\ at\ this\ link:\ https://squareup.com/store/cottonwood-heights-city/item/th-annual-death-by-chocolate-event$

If you would like to be a vendor, please call 801-944-7067 or email smartell@ch.utah.gov.

Sub for Santa

A big "Thank You" to our Cottonwood Heights businesses who sponsored individual families (AuctionIQ, Equiscript, Insurance Concepts, Network Funding and Miriam Aiazzi and neighbors) and to our local businesses and residents who stepped up to support the remaining families for our Sub for Santa Program. The CHBA is grateful for the opportunity to help our community and we could not do it without your generosity.



Business Spotlights

Alternative Behavior Strategies 6910 S. Highland Drive, Garden Level



Alternative Behavior Strategies (ABS) is an award-winning leader in the delivery of services for children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). The company specializes in providing Applied Behavior Analysis, or ABA therapy. ABA is a behavioral learning program, which is the most frequently prescribed and only clinically proven treatment for ASD. Customized for each child, ABA therapy programs are intense, often

requiring up to 40 hours per week of therapy. Receiving this many ABA therapy hours offers the child a greater opportunity to progress towards reaching their individualized goals. The new 12,000-square-foot Cottonwood Heights ABA Therapy Center gives children with autism and their families in the area an exciting new option for treatment. It allows parents to bring their children for ABA therapy all day while



they are at work, ensuring that the children have consistency with their treatment. The new center features a variety of innovations designed to help children with autism make therapy a fun learning experience. Highlights of the new center include a gated and secure outdoor playground area with rubber flooring and play equipment.

Cie's Creations, LLC

Tiffney Thornock, owner of Cie's Creations, grew up in Cottonwood Heights, where she is now raising her four children.

Thornock has been baking for as long as she can remember, and it was always a side passion before she decided to turn this into a career. Cie's Creations is a home-based business. Thornock loves coming up with new recipes and putting smiles on clients' faces with homemade, wholesome food. She currently take orders through Instagram @cies_creations and her website ciescreations.org.



Little Code Academy | 1844 E. Fort Union Boulevard, #7

Little Code Academy is empowering today's kids to become future innovators in tech. Utah's tech industry is the No. 1 fastest growing in the nation. Between 2007 and 2017, tech jobs increased at 3.6 percent annually while non-tech jobs increased at 1.6 percent, which is more than double the national average. These numbers lead to an important question: Do Utah kids have the necessary resources to be prepared for future jobs?

At Little Code Academy, kids (age 7-16) learn to create apps and games with their own code, at their own pace. It's a new way to learn code. They offer more than a dozen on-demand Coding and Robotics courses for beginner through advanced coders. Their newest courses include Roblox Create, Minecraft Mod and Website Builder. As part of their curriculum at Little Code Academy, kids learn key skills like math, creative thinking, problem-solving, analyzing, designing and collaborating — all essential skills required in Utah for the near future.



Ribbon Cutting

Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony | 6985 Union Park Ave., Suite 650 Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 11 a.m. Please join us!

Northwest Bank, founded in 2008 and serving Idaho, Oregon and Washington, is proud to announce its expansion into Salt Lake City. Focused on the business community, Northwest

Bank has a team of experienced bankers who invest in client relationships to deliver customized solutions and exceptional levels of service. By choosing the Cottonwood Heights neighborhood, Northwest Bank is adjacent to the growing business communities of Salt Lake City. The bank is deeply rooted into the

communities it serves, and it works to hire dedicated people to best assist clients' needs. Northwest Bank is very proud to be part of the community!